

Celebrating the 50th anniversary of the International Geophysical Year (IGY) and supporting an International Geophysical Year-2 (IGY-2) in 2007-08: H. Con. Res. 189, amended, celebrating the 50th anniversary of the International Geophysical Year (IGY) and supporting an International Geophysical Year-2 (IGY-2) in 2007-08, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nay vote of 420 yeas to 3 nays, Roll No. 83.

Pages H1413-14, H1442-43

Suspensions—Proceedings Postponed: The House completed debate on the following measures under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed until Thursday, March 25.

Community Recognition Act of 2003: H.R. 3095, amended, to amend title 4, United States Code, to make sure the rules of etiquette for flying the flag of the United States do not preclude the flying of flags at half mast when ordered by city and local officials;

Pages H1379-80

Bureau of Engraving and Printing Security Printing Act of 2004: H.R. 3786, to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to produce currency, postage stamps, and other security documents at the request of foreign governments on a reimbursable basis;

Pages H1382-84

District of Columbia and United States Territories Circulating Quarter Dollar Program Act: H.R. 2993, to provide for a circulating quarter dollar coin program to honor the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the United States Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; and

Pages H1384-88

Authorizing the President of the United States to agree to certain amendments to the Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the United Mexican States concerning the establishment of a Border Environment Cooperation Commission and a North American Development Bank: Agreed to the Senate amendment to H.R. 254, to authorize the President of the United States to agree to certain amendments to the Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the United Mexican States concerning the establishment of a Border Environment Cooperation Commission and a North American Development Bank—clearing the measure for the President;

Pages H1388-93

Budget Resolution for FY 2005: The House began consideration of H. Con. Res. 393, establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2005 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2004 and

2006 through 2009. Further consideration will continue on Thursday, March 25.

Pages H1415-40, H1443-51, H1451-66

The concurrent resolution was considered under a unanimous consent agreement reached on Tuesday, March 23.

Veterans' Disability Benefits Commission—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of Mr. Nick B. Bacon of Rosebud, Arkansas and Mr. Donald M. Cassiday of Aurora, Indiana to the Veterans' Disability Benefits Commission.

Page H1443

Select Committee on Homeland Security—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of Representative Chandler to the Select Committee on Homeland Security.

Page H1451

Quorum Calls—Votes: Eight yeas-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings today and appear on pages H1393, H1393-94, H1394-95, H1395, H1440-41, H1441-42, H1442, and H1442-43. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10:00 a.m. and adjourned at 12 midnight.

Committee Meetings

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FDA AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies held a hearing on Food and Nutrition Service. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the USDA: Eric M. Bost, Under Secretary, Kate Coler, Deputy Under Secretary, both with the Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services; Robert Salazar, Administrator, Food and Nutrition Service; Eric Hentges, Executive Director, Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion; and Stephen B. Dewhurst, Budget Officer.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, STATE, JUDICIARY AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State, Judiciary and Related Agencies held a hearing on Legal Activities; DEA; Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Justice: James Comey, Deputy Attorney General; Karen Tandy, Administrator, DEA; and Edgar Domenech, Acting Director, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.

The Subcommittee also held a hearing on U.S. Marshals Service and Federal Prison System. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Justice: Benigno G. Rayna, Director, U.S. Marshals Service; and Harley G. Lappin, Director, Bureau of Prisons.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development held a hearing on Nuclear Waste Disposal and Environmental Management. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Energy: Margaret Chu, Director, Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management; and Jessie Roberson, Assistant Secretary, Environmental Management.

HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Homeland Security held a hearing on Emergency Preparedness and Response. Testimony was heard from Michael Brown, Under Secretary, Emergency Preparedness and Response, Department of Homeland Security.

LABOR, HHS, EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies held a hearing on Health Resources and Services Administration. Testimony was heard from Elizabeth James Duke, M.D., Administrator, Health Resources and Services Administration, Department of Health and Human Services.

The Subcommittee held a hearing on the Administration for Children and Families. Testimony was heard from Wade F. Horn, Assistant Secretary, Administration for Children and Families, Department of Health and Human Services.

The Subcommittee also held a hearing on the Secretary of Education. Testimony was heard from Roderrick R. Paige, Secretary of Education.

TRANSPORTATION, TREASURY AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Transportation, Treasury and Independent Agencies held a hearing on OMB. Testimony was heard from Joshua Bolton, Director, OMB.

VA, HUD AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on VA, HUD and Independent Agencies held a hearing on Chemical Safety Hazard Investigation Board. Testi-

mony was heard from Carolyn W. Merritt, Chair, U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board.

The Subcommittee also held a hearing on Corporation for National and Community Service. Testimony was heard from David Eisner, CEO, Corporation for National and Community Service.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BUDGET REQUEST—DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Committee on Armed Services: Held a hearing on the Fiscal Year 2005 National Defense Authorization budget request from the Department of Defense. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: GEN James L. Jones, USMC, Commander, U.S. European Command; and GEN James T. Hill, USA, Commander, U.S. Southern Command.

PRE-POSITIONED EQUIPMENT PROGRAMS—USA AND USMC

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Readiness held a hearing on the Pre-positioned Equipment Programs of the United States Army and United States Marine Corps. Testimony was heard from BG Jerome Johnson, USA, Director, Plans, Operations and Readiness, and BG Kevin T. Ryan, Director, Strategy, Plans and Policy, both with the Department of the Army; BG Robert B. Neller, USMC, Director, Operations Division (PO), Plans, Policy and Operations, U.S. Marine Corps; William M. Solis, Director, Defense Capabilities and Management, GAO; and a public witness.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BUDGET REQUEST—MILITARY PERSONNEL POLICY

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Total Force held a hearing on the Fiscal Year 2005 National Defense Authorization budget request—Military Personnel Policy, Benefits and Compensation Overview. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: Charles S. Abell, Principal Deputy Under Secretary, Personnel and Readiness; LTG Franklin L. Hagenbeck, USA, Deputy Chief of Staff, G1, Headquarters, Department of the Army; VADM Gerald Hoewing, USN, Chief, Naval Personnel and Deputy Chief of Naval Operations, Manpower and Personnel; and LTG Garry L. Parks, USMC, Deputy Commandant, Manpower and Reserve Affairs, U.S. Marine Corps, both with the Department of the Navy; LTG Richard Brown, USAF, Deputy Chief of Staff, Personnel, Headquarters, U.S. Air Force; Derek B. Stewart, Director, Defense, Capabilities and Management, GAO; and public witnesses.

“THE STATE OF U.S. INDUSTRY”

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Held a hearing on “The State of U.S. Industry.” Testimony was heard from Donald L. Evans, Secretary of Commerce.

ZERO DOWNPAYMENT ACT

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Housing and Community Opportunity held a hearing on H.R. 3755, Zero Downpayment Act of 2004. Testimony was heard from John Weicher, Assistant Secretary, Housing-Federal Housing Commissioner, Department of Housing and Urban Development; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—FEDERAL EMPLOYEES HEALTH BENEFITS PROGRAM AND FEDERAL LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE PROGRAM

Committee on Government Reform: Subcommittee on Civil Service and Agency Organization held an oversight hearing entitled “Oversight of the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program and the Federal Long-Term Care Insurance Program.” Testimony was heard from Dan G. Blair, Deputy Director, OPM; and public witnesses.

HOMELAND SECURITY DEPARTMENT’S PLAN—CONSOLIDATE AND CO-LOCATE REGIONAL AND FIELD OFFICES TO IMPROVE COMMUNICATION

Committee on Government Reform: Subcommittee on Energy Policy, Natural Resources and Regulatory Affairs and the Subcommittee on National Security, Emerging Threats and International Relations held a joint hearing entitled “The Homeland Security Department’s Plan to Consolidate and Co-locate Regional and Field Offices: Improving Communication and Coordination.” Testimony was heard from Asa Hutchinson, Under Secretary, Border and Transportation Security, Department of Homeland Security; and public witnesses.

DIETARY SUPPLEMENTS STATUS

Committee on Government Reform: Subcommittee on Human Rights and Wellness held a hearing entitled “10 Years after the Implementation of DSHEA: The Status of Dietary Supplements in the United States.” Testimony was heard from Senator Durbin; Robert Brackett, Director, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—ELECTRONIC GOVERNMENT

Committee on Government Reform: Subcommittee on Technology, Information Policy, Intergovernmental Relations and the Census held an oversight hearing entitled “Electronic Government: A Progress Report

on the Successes and Challenges of Government-wide Information Technology Solutions.” Testimony was heard from Karen S. Evans, Administrator, E-Government and Information Technology, OMB; Linda Koontz, Director, Information Management, GAO; the following officials of the GSA: Martin Wagner, Associate Administrator, Office of Government-wide Policy; and M. J. Jameson, Associate Administrator (USA Services), Office of Citizen Services and Communication; Norman Enger, Director, E-Government (E-Payroll), OPM; Kim Nelson, Chief Information Officer (E-Rulemaking Initiative), EPA; and George Strawn, Chief Information Officer (E-Grants), Division of Grants and Agreements, NSF.

PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS—SAFETY AND SECURITY

Committee on International Relations: Held a hearing on Safety and Security of Peace Corps Volunteers. Testimony was heard from Jess Ford, Director, International Affairs and Trade, GAO; the following officials of the Peace Corps: Gaddi H. Vasquez, Director; and Charles D. Smith, Inspector General; and public witnesses.

SAUDI ARABIA AND THE FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM FINANCING

Committee on International Relations: Subcommittee on the Middle East and Central Asia held a hearing on Saudi Arabia and the Fight Against Terrorism Financing. Testimony was heard from J. Cofer Black, Coordinator, Office of the Coordinator for Counterterrorism, Department of State; Gary M. Bald, Assistant Director, Counterterrorism Unit, FBI, Department of Justice; Juan C. Zarate, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Executive Office Terrorist Financing and Financial Crime, Department of the Treasury; and public witnesses.

GUEST WORKERS IMPACT ON WORKING AMERICANS

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Immigration, Border Security, and Claims held an oversight hearing entitled “How Would Millions of Guestworkers Impact Working Americans and Americans Seeking Employment?” Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—FACILITY TITLE TRANSFERS; MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on Resources: Subcommittee on Water and Power held an oversight hearing on the Bureau of Reclamation’s Facility Title Transfers: Lessons Learned and Future Opportunities. Testimony was heard from John Keys III, Commissioner, Bureau of

Reclamation, Department of the Interior; and public witnesses.

The Subcommittee also held a hearing on H.R. 3747, Wallowa Lake Dam Rehabilitation and Water Management Act of 2004. Testimony was heard from John Keys III, Commissioner, Bureau of Reclamation, Department of the Interior.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2005

Committee on Rules: Granted, by voice vote, a structured rule providing for further consideration of H. Con. Res. 393, concurrent resolution establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2005 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2004 and 2006 through 2009. The rule makes in order only those amendments printed in the Rules Committee report accompanying the resolution which may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, and shall not be subject to amendment. The rule waives all points of order against the amendments printed in the report, except that the adoption of an amendment in the nature of a substitute shall constitute the conclusion of consideration of the concurrent resolution for amendment. The rule provides, upon the conclusion of consideration of the concurrent resolution for amendment, for a final period of general debate not to exceed 10 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Budget. The rule permits the chairman of the Budget Committee to offer amendments in the House to achieve mathematical consistency. Finally, the rule provides that the concurrent resolution shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question of its adoption. Testimony was heard from Chairman Nussle and Representatives Hensarling, Jones (NC), Goode, Spratt, Hooley, Edwards, Scott (VA), Thompson (CA), Obey, Stenholm, Brown (OH), Waters, Gutierrez, Stupak, Woolsey, Jackson-Lee (TX), Turner (TX), Reyes, Schiff, Bishop (NY) and Miller (NC).

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY BUDGET PRIORITIES

Committee on Science: Subcommittee on Energy held a hearing on the Priorities in the Department of Energy Budget for Fiscal Year 2005. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Energy: James Decker, Principal Deputy Director, Office of Science; David Garman, Assistant Secretary, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy; Mark R.

Maddox, Acting Assistant Secretary, Fossil Energy; William D. Magwood, IV, Director, Office of Nuclear Energy, Science and Technology; and James W. Glotfelty, Director, Office of Electric Transmission and Distribution.

NATIONAL WINDSTORM IMPACT REDUCTION ACT

Committee on Science: Subcommittee on Research and the Subcommittee on Environment, Technology and Standards held a joint hearing on H.R. 3980, National Windstorm Impact Reduction Act of 2004. Testimony was heard from Anthony Lowe, Administrator, Federal Insurance Mitigation Administration, Emergency Preparedness and Response Directorate, Department of Homeland Security; and public witnesses.

TRANSPORTATION EQUITY ACT; MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Ordered reported the following measures: H. Con. Res. 376, Authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby; H. Con. Res. 388, Authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the National Peace Officers' Memorial Service; H. Con. Res. 389, authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the D.C. Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run; H.R. 3550, amended, Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users; and H.R. 3994, Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users.

EMPLOYING VETERANS OF OUR ARMED FORCES

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Held a hearing entitled "Employing Veterans of Our Armed Forces." Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2004 ANNUAL REPORTS

Committee on Ways and Means: Held a hearing on Board of Trustees 2004 Annual Reports. Testimony was heard from John W. Snow, Secretary of the Treasury; Rick Foster, Chief Actuary, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services; Stephen C. Goss, Chief Actuary, SSA; and Douglas Holtz-Eakin, Director, CBO.

CIA PROGRAM BUDGET

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Met in executive session to hold a hearing on Central Intelligence Agency Program Budget. Testimony was heard from departmental witnesses.

HOMELAND SECURITY JURISDICTION

Select Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Rules held a hearing entitled "Homeland Security Jurisdiction: The Perspective of Committee Leaders." Testimony was heard from members of the following House Committees: Intelligence, Chairman Goss and Representative Harman; Agriculture, Chairman Goodlatte and Representative Stenholm; Energy and Commerce, Chairman Barton and Representative Dingell; Government Reform, Chairman Davis and Representative Waxman; Transportation and Infrastructure, Representatives Mica and Oberstar; Judiciary: Chairman Sensenbrenner; and Ways and Means, Chairman Thomas.

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY,
MARCH 25, 2004**

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2005 for the Department of Health and Human Services, 9:30 a.m., SD-192.

Subcommittee on Interior, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2005 for the Department of the Interior, 9:30 a.m., SD-124.

Subcommittee on VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2005 for the Environmental Protection Agency, 10 a.m., SD-628.

Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2005 for the Department of State, 10 a.m., S-146, Capitol.

Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2005 for programs under its jurisdiction, 1:30 p.m., SD-192.

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine the role of the U.S. Northern Command and U.S. Special Operations Command in defending the homeland and in the global war on terrorism, in review of the defense authorization request for fiscal year 2005; to be followed by a closed session in SH-219, 9:30 a.m., SH-216.

Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, to hold hearings to examine national security space programs and management in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2005, 2:30 p.m., SR-232A.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Subcommittee on Economic Policy, to hold an oversight hearing to examine national flood insurance repetitive losses, 10 a.m., SD-538.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2005 for the Federal Transit Administration, Department of Transportation, 2 p.m., SD-538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: to hold hearings to examine cable rates, 9:30 a.m., SR-253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Water and Power, to hold hearings to examine S. 1085, to provide for a Bureau of Reclamation program to assist states and local communities in evaluating and developing rural and small community water supply systems, S. 1732, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to establish a rural water supply program in the Reclamation States to provide a clean, safe, affordable, and reliable water supply to rural residents, S. 1727, to authorize additional appropriations for the Reclamation Safety of Dams Act of 1978, and S. 1791, to amend the Lease Lot Conveyance Act of 2002 to provide that the amounts received by the United States under that Act shall be deposited in the reclamation fund, 2:30 p.m., SD-366.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine proposed legislation to amend the African Growth and Opportunity Act to expand certain trade benefits to eligible sub-Saharan African countries, 9:30 a.m., SD-419.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Miles T. Bivins, of Texas, to be Ambassador to Sweden, Michael Christian Polt, of Tennessee, to be Ambassador to Serbia and Montenegro, Thomas Bolling Robertson, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to Slovenia, John M. Ordway, of California, to be Ambassador to Kazakhstan, and Earle I. Mack, of New York, to be Ambassador to Finland, 2:30 p.m., SD-419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Subcommittee on Employment, Safety, and Training, to hold hearings to examine hazard communication in the workplace, 10 a.m., SD-430.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: to hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentations of the National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs, AMVETS, American Ex-Prisoners of War, the Vietnam Veterans of America, and the Military Officers Association of America, 10 a.m., 345 CHOB.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies, on Rural Development, 9:30 a.m., 2362A Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State, Judiciary and Related Agencies, on SBA, 10 a.m., and on U.S. Trade Representative, 2 p.m., and on EEOC, 4 p.m., H-309 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, executive, on National Nuclear Security Administration, 10 a.m., 2362B Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Homeland Security, on Bureau of Customs and Border Protection, 10 a.m., and on United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, 2 p.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Interior, on National Park Service, 10 a.m., B-308 Rayburn.